



GENERAL

1. French military views on Soviet strategy--The US Military Attache in Paris reports that the Chief of French Army Intelligence does not anticipate any Soviet military reaction to current efforts by the western powers to solidify western European defense and promote economic recovery. At a 14 June conference attended by French military leaders and the MA, the Intelligence Chief indicated he expects a continuation of the Soviet "cold war" and a further exertion of pressure in Berlin with the object of ejecting the western powers without precipitating war with the US. Armed Forces Minister Teitgen expressed his special fear of a centralized Germany under Communist control. Teitgen believes that "hostilities" might result from: (a) the formation of an eastern German Government by the USSR subsequent to the creation of a western German Government by the western powers; and (b) the lack of a common German currency as a basis of exchange, particularly in Berlin, subsequent to currency reform in the western zones. The MA says that Army Chief of Staff General Revers and Armed Forces Inspector General de Latire, who also participated in the conference, were not explicit on the anticipated military reaction of the USSR. De Lattre indicated, however, that the prime French fear was not of the USSR, but of a resurgent Germany.

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